## Message Text

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**ACTION EUR-12** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 USIA-06

SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 /093 W ------ 045675

R 221403Z MAY 75 FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3295

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ENRG, HU

SUBJ: PRICE FOR 1975 OIL IMPORTS FROM THE SOVIET UNION

REF: STATE 108500

- 1. OFFICIAL HUNGARIAN STATISTICS FOR FIRST THREE MONTHS
  1975 CONFIRM STATIC LEVELS IN VALUE OF HUNGARIAN ENERGY
  IMPORTS FROM SOCIALIST COUNTRIES NOTED REFTEL. DURING
  FIRST QUARTER 1975, IMPORTS OF "ENERGY CARRIERS AND
  ELECTRICAL ENERGY" FROM SOCIALIST COUNTRIES TOTALED 775
  MILLION DEVISA FORINTS (DFT), A MARGINAL 1.6 PERCENT INCREASE
  OVER CORRESPONDING 1974 PERIOD. IMPORT INCREASES IN THIS
  CATEGORY FAR LOWER THAN IN ALL OTHER CATEGORIES OF
  SOCIALIST IMPORTS AS MATERIALS AND SEMI-FINISHED PRODUCTS
  JUMPED 28 PERCENT, MACHINERY 53.9 PERCENT, CONSUMER ARTICLES
  30.6 PERCENT, AND PRODUCTS OF THE FOOD INDUSTRY 121 PERCENT,
  COMPARED WITH FIRST QUARTER FIGURES FOR LAST YEAR. ENERGY IMPORTS
  FROM NON-SOCIALIST COUNTRIES ACTUALLY DECLINED BY 4.8 PERCNET
  OVER 1974 LEVELS AND TOTALED 266 MILLION DFT.
- 2. EMBASSY ATTEMPTING TO FIND OUT REASONS FOR THIS DISCREPANCY. HUNGARIAN PRESS WIDELY REPORTED RISE IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PRICE FOR SOVIET OIL BUT NEVER DID SPECIFY JAN 1 AS

EFFECTIVE DATE FOR PRICE HIKES, HOWEVER, OUR NORMALLY RELIABLE HUNGARIAN SOURCES HAVE CONSISTENTLY INFORMED US THAT PRICE HIKES WERE EFFECTIVE AS OF FIRST OF YEAR. IT CERTAINLY APPEARS THAT IF PRICE RISES DID IN FACT GO INTO EFFECT AS OF JAN 1 THIS HAS YET TO BE REFLECTED IN OFFICIAL STATISTICS FOR ENERGY IMPORTS. NEVERTHELESS, WE ARE VERY MUCH STRUCK BY FACT THAT ALTHOUGH CEMA ENERGY IMPORTS ROSE ONLY MARGINALLY, OVERALL IMPORTS JUMPED 35.9 PERCENT WHILE EXPORTS ROSE ONLY 25.2 PERCENT IN FIRST THREE MONTHS OF YEAR GIVING HUNGARY DEFICIT OF 351 MILLION DFT IN RUBLE TRADE AS COMPARED TO 458 MILLION DFT SURPLUS IN FIRST QUARTER 1974. THUS IF CEMA PRICE RISES NOT YET REFLECTED IN OFFICIAL STATISTICS, HUNGARY'S TRADE DEFICIT WITH OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES MAY BE FAR LARGER THAN FIRST QUARTER STATISTICS INDICATE. MCAULIFFE

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: PETROLEUM, IMPORTS, PRICE DATA

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